

Mr. President, we believe that the evidence is overwhelming and can lead to no decision other than the decertification of Mexico. It would send a strong signal to Mexico and the world that the United States will not tolerate lack of cooperation in the fight against narcotics, even from our close friends and allies. Accordingly, we urge you to establish a clear set of benchmarks by which you will judge if and when to recertify Mexico for counternarcotics cooperation. These benchmarks must include, but not be limited to: effective action to dismantle the major drug cartels and arrest their leaders; full and ongoing implementation of effective money-laundering legislation; compliance with all outstanding extradition requests by the United States; increased interdiction of narcotics and other controlled substances flowing across the border by land and sea routes; improved cooperation with U.S. law enforcement officials including allowing U.S. agents to resume carrying weapons on the Mexican side of the border; and a comprehensive program to identify, weed out, and prosecute corrupt officials at all levels of the Mexican government, police, and military.

You may feel, as many of us do, that U.S. interests in Mexico, economic and otherwise, are too extensive to risk the fall-out that would result from decertification. That is why Congress included a vital national interest waiver provision in Section 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act. But other vital interests are not a valid reason to certify when certification has not been earned. If you feel that our interests warrant it, we urge you to use this waiver. But an honest assessment of Mexico's cooperation on counternarcotics must fall on the side of decertification.

Sincerely,

Wayne Allard, Jeff Bingaman, Barbara Boxer, John Breaux, Richard Bryan, Max Cleland, Susan M. Collins, Kent Conrad, Paul Coverdell, Larry Craig, Alfonse D'Amato, Pete Domenici, Byron Dorgan, Dick Durbin, Russ Feingold, Dianne Feinstein, Wendell Ford, Slade Gorton, Judd Gregg, Chuck Hagel, Jesse Helms, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Tim Hutchinson, Dirk Kempthorne, Bob Kerrey, Jon Kyl, Mary Landrieu, Frank Lautenberg, Connie Mack, Patty Murray, Frank Murkowski, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Carol Moseley-Braun, Jack Reed, Harry Reid, Rick Santorum, Ted Stevens, Robert Torricelli, and Ron Wyden.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 102

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 102, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve Medicare treatment and education for beneficiaries with diabetes by providing coverage of diabetes outpatient self-management training services and uniform coverage of blood-testing strips for individuals with diabetes.

S. 146

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Missouri [Mr. BOND], and the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] were added as cosponsors of S. 146, a bill to permit Medicare beneficiaries to enroll with qualified provider-sponsored organizations under title XVIII of the So-

cial Security Act, and for other purposes.

S. 148

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KERRY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 148, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide a comprehensive program for the prevention of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

S. 211

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Georgia [Mr. CLELAND] was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period of time for the manifestation of chronic disabilities due to undiagnosed symptoms in veterans who served in the Persian Gulf war in order for those disabilities to be compensable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 242

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. HAGEL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 242, a bill to require a 60-vote supermajority in the Senate to pass any bill increasing taxes.

S. 317

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. FORD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 317, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

S. 341

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH] was added as a cosponsor of S. 341, a bill to establish a bipartisan commission to study and provide recommendations on restoring the financial integrity of the Medicare Program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

S. 355

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 355, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the research credit permanent.

S. 381

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG], and the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE] were added as cosponsors of S. 381, a bill to establish a demonstration project to study and provide coverage of routine patient care costs for Medicare beneficiaries with cancer who are enrolled in an approved clinical trial program.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Indiana [Mr. COATS] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 6, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 18

At the request of Mr. HOLLINGS, the name of the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. FORD] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 18, a joint res-

olution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY SMITH-POINTER

• Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Shirley Smith-Pointer who is retiring from the Social Security Administration after 34 years of Federal service.

Ms. Smith-Pointer held the positions of claims development clerk, data review technician, and claims representative—the position she held upon retiring. Her duties as a claims representative involved assisting the public in filing claims for retirement, survivors, disability, and Medicare, and also determining entitlement and making final adjudication for those claims.

In addition to her good work as a Social Security employee, Ms. Smith-Pointer was very active in, and helpful to, her community. She served as secretary, usher, and Sunday school teacher for her church. She has also been a member of the National Council of Negro Women and served the Chestnut Street YMCA's Black Achievers' Program.

Mr. President, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shirley Smith-Pointer for 34 years of dedicated service to the Federal Government. •

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE AND THE CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE

• Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, today's Chicago Sun-Times contained an editorial headlined, "Loosen reins on CBOT, Merc." The editorial, talking about the Chicago Board of Trade, and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, made the point that:

"Congress must loosen the regulatory reins on the Chicago Board of Trade and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Otherwise, officials argue convincingly, Chicago will lose business and jobs to the unregulated over the counter markets or overseas exchanges."

The Sun-Times had it exactly right. As in so many other areas of financial policy, the law has not kept up with economic reality. The world has changed. There is a revolution underway in finance, and, if the United States sits back and ignores the new realities of the marketplace, the result will be to seriously damage American financial marketplaces vis-a-vis their global competition, and to increasingly warp and distort the competition between and among various American financial markets.

We must respond; we must respond vigorously; and we must respond now. Chicago's future and option exchanges